

Application No.: 10/787,150
Attorney Docket No. 56730.000004

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-41 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 11, 20, 22 and 24 are amended, and claims 2 and 3 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter set forth therein. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added by this Amendment. Applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully requested.

A. THE ELECTION REQUIREMENT

On page 2, the Office Action indicates that Applicant's election with traverse of Species I drawn to figures 1-17 in the reply filed on April 25, 2005 is acknowledged. The Office Action reflects the traversal is based on the grounds that the embodiments are directed to a unitary concept and based on various policy arguments, and concludes that Applicant's arguments are unpersuasive. Accordingly, the Office Action indicates the requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made final.

As noted in Applicant's April 24, 2005 Response, Applicant submits that all the claims in the present application are readable on the elected species. Further, Applicant notes that all the claims in the application appear to be examined in the June 29, 2005 Office Action.

B. THE ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action, on page 6, indicates that claims 3-5, 11, 20, 21, and 24-41 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.¹

¹ Applicant notes that claims 31, 35, 38 and 39 are independent claims, with claims 32-34, 36, 37, 40 and 41 being variously dependent on such independent claims. Accordingly, it
(continued...)

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Applicant notes the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection as set forth in the Office Action. However, in order to expedite prosecution of this application, Applicant has amended the application based on the indication of allowable subject matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

Specifically, the application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 is amended to include features of claims 2 and 3, with claims 2 and 3 canceled.

Claim 11 is amended to include features of claims 1, 2 and 6.

Claim 20 is amended to include features of claims 1, 2, 6 and 16-19.

Claim 24 is amended to include features of claim 1.

Further, claims 31-41 are understood by Applicant to be allowed, as noted in Footnote 1.

C. CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that no fees are necessary in connection with the filing of this document. In the event any fees are necessary, please charge or credit any such fees, including fees for any extensions of time, to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

appears from the Office Action that such claims are indeed allowed. The Examiner is requested to confirm Applicant's understanding.

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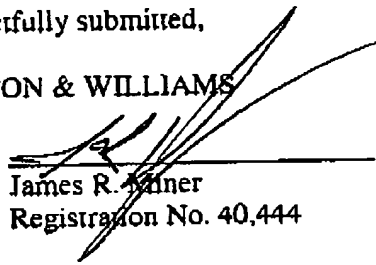
The Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below if any assistance might be provided to the Examiner in the examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS

Date: November 29, 2005

By:


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